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MAY
DOCTOR WHO
2 TALES OF THE DOCTOR IN THIS ISSUE
"THE COLLECTOR"
"DREAMERS OF DEATH"

Stan Lee presents

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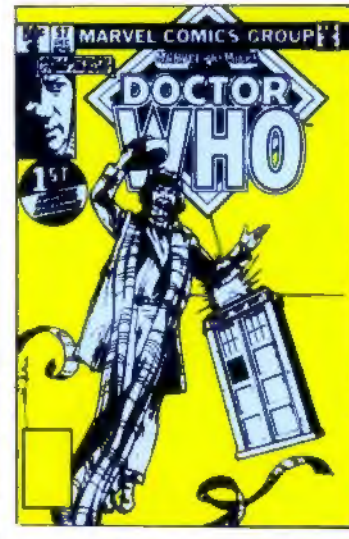
INTRODUCTION by Jim Salicrup

Hello again and welcome to the eclectic eighth issue of **DOCTOR WHO**. Within these colorful pages you'll find the official comic book adventures of the BBC's favorite Time Lord. And, as you know by now from my telling you every issue, these stories were originally created by Marvel's merry London office for their **DOCTOR WHO WEEKLY**. After all, *Doctor Who* is the British Broadcasting Company's longest running television program and a large part of the show's charm is . . . well, its Britishness. Sure, I know **the Doctor** is from the planet Gallifrey, but that "By Jove!" he exclaims, on page one of this issue, tells me he's as British as you can get. That's why we maintain the British spellings in these stories — like "materialisation" on page two. It only seems proper.

Well, now that I've gone on and on about how wonderful it is that Britain's own Marvel Bullpen produced these time-travellin' tales, I'm almost embarrassed to mention that **Paul Neary**, the chap who edited the comics presented this issue, is currently the penciler for one of Marvel's most American heroes. Yep, you guessed it. **Paul** is pencilling **CAPTAIN AMERICA**. We're not called mixed-up Marvel for nothing.

Now for something completely different. I just picked up a great new book by **Denis Gifford**, the famed British comics historian. Before you ask whether he's a British historian who studies comics or a historian who specializes in British comics or a British historian who studies British comedians, I'll tell you that his book is called, "The International Book of Comics" and it's published by Crescent Books, a division of Crown Publishers, Inc., and it's only available in the United States for some screwy reason. The book features beautiful reproductions, most in full-color, of comic book covers full-color, of comic book covers from around the world. The book is divided into categories such as Educational Comics, Crime Comics, Super Hero Comics, Classic Comics, and many others. Of special interest to Whovians is the chapter titled "The Where and When of Dr Who." Reproduced in black and white are the covers of **DOCTOR WHO WEEKLY** #1 and **MARVEL PREMIERE** #57 (which was **the Doctor's** first North American Marvel appearance). The cover of Dell's **DR. WHO AND THE DALEKS** is also included, as is the cover of the British comics weekly **TV ACTION** #1 featuring a very confused **Doctor**. Despite crediting **Walt Simonson's MARVEL PREMIERE** cover to **Joe Sinnott**, I heartily recommend this book to everyone. If nothing else, it inspired me to commission an article all about **the Doctor's** non-Marvel comic book appearances.



So, until next time, enjoy this issue's double dose of **the Doctor** and stay out of trouble, hear?

JIM SALICRUP

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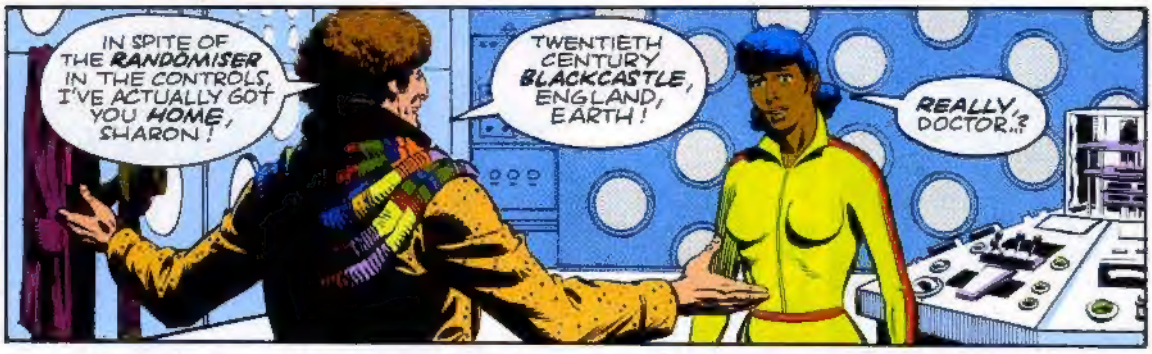

IN SPITE OF THE RANDOMISER IN THE CONTROLS, I'VE ACTUALLY GOT YOU HOME, SHARON!
TWENTIETH CENTURY BLACKCASTLE, ENGLAND, EARTH!
REALLY!? DOCTOR...?

ONLY TROUBLE IS, I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO GO HOME NOW...NOT SINCE I'VE GROWN UP!
OH, OF COURSE YOU DO! 'NO PLACE LIKE HOME'!
WHY, I EVEN LIKE GALLIFREY ...SOMETIMES...

BUT, JUST AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO STEP OUTSIDE...
BLIMEY, DOCTOR... LOOK OUT!
WHAT'S THAT?

I'D GUESS WE'VE BEEN PICKED UP BY A TELEPORT-BEAM ...AND IT'S TAKEN THE WHOLE TARDIS WITH IT...
SEEMS HARD TO BELIEVE, I KNOW, BUT...

AND THEN THE TARDIS MAKES ITS SECOND MATERIALISATION IN A MATTER OF MINUTES...
I THINK SOMEONE WANTS TO HAVE A WORD WITH US...

SO NOW WHERE ARE WE, DOCTOR?
AS FAR AS I CAN TELL FROM THIS, WE SEEM TO BE IN THE ASTEROID BELT...
BUT IT APPEARS THERE'S A BREATHABLE ATMOSPHERE OUTSIDE...

BUT WHEN THEY EMERGE...
HMM...A COMPLETELY EMPTY ROOM! NO SIGN OF A TELEPORT-MACHINE IN HERE...BUT IT CAN'T BE FAR AWAY!
THESE DOORS ARE LOCKED, DOCTOR!

WELL, WE WON'T LET THAT STOP US HAVING A LOOK ROUND...
STAND BACK, SHARON! K-9 CAN ALWAYS USE SOME MORE PRACTISE IN OPENING DOORS!
WO MPF!
AND THERE IS STILL NO SIGN OF A RECEPTION COMMITTEE AS THEY STEP OUT INTO A CORRIDOR...
NO POINT TRYING TO BREAK A WINDOW AND RUN AWAY...
THEY MUST BE ARMOUR-PLATED GLASS TO KEEP THE ATMOSPHERE IN...
AND BESIDES, THERE DOESN'T REALLY SEEM TO BE ANY-WHERE TO GO...

WHAT ABOUT THESE FUNNY LOOKING DOOR-WAYS, THEN?
AH! A PLASMATIC FORCE-FIELD! MEANT TO STOP ANYONE GOING THROUGH ... OR SEEING THROUGH!
STILL, I EXPECT MY OLD SONIC SCREW-DRIVER'LL SCRAMBLE THE MECHANISM QUITE NICELY...

AND AS THE PLASMA-FIELD PARTS...
I MUST BE SEEING THINGS! IT'S LIKE STEPPING INTO ANOTHER WORLD!

AND STEPPING INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S CLOTHING, TOO! ROMAN, ISN'T IT?
THIS IS ALL VERY ODD!

BUT THEN THE NEW-COMERS ARE NOTICED...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY HOUSE?
OH, UM... JUST DROPPED IN FOR A FRIENDLY CHAT!
LUCIUS! THROW THEM OUT!

BUT MAYBE WE CAN TALK ANOTHER DAY...!
YOU CALLED, SIR...?

ER... BYE!
AND THAT'S ANOTHER ODD THING! WE'VE BOTH BEEN TALKING FLUENT LATIN FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF MINUTES... I ONLY JUST REALISED...

IT'S AS IF WE'D STEPPED INTO A FROZEN MOMENT OF TIME... WHERE EVERYTHING'S EXACTLY AS IT WAS THEN...
SLIMEY! LOOK AT US NOW!

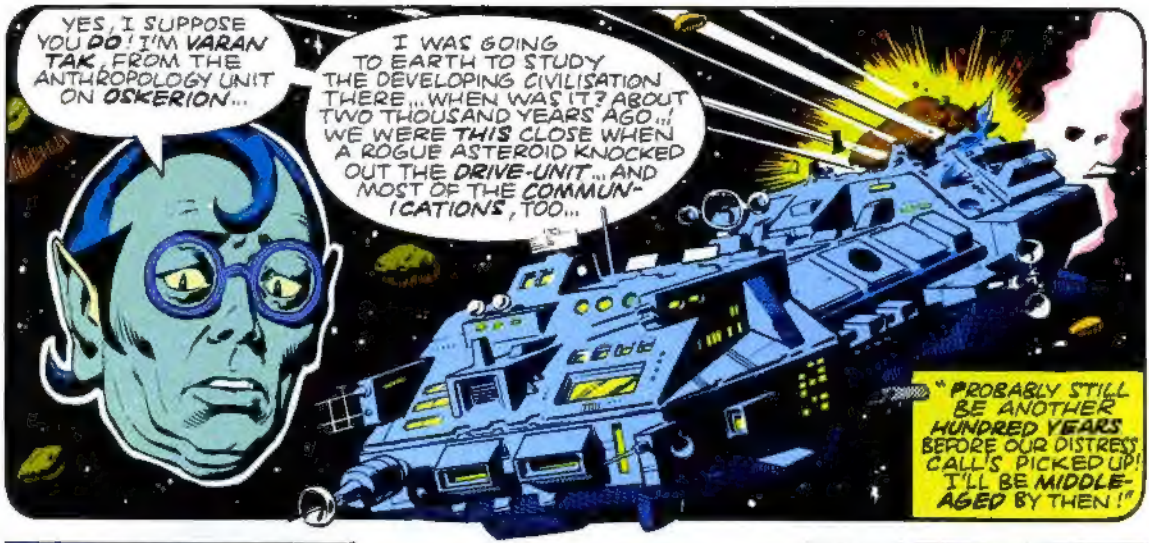
THAT'S THE TROUBLE... EVERYONE IS LOOKING AT US!
EXCUSE US... JUST PASSING THROUGH!

AND AT LAST...
PHEW! BACK IN THE CORRIDOR AGAIN! HELLO, K-9!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE UP TO?
I BROUGHT YOU HERE FOR MY TWENTIETH CENTURY ROOM... NOT TO CREATE HAVOC IN THE THIRD AND EIGHTEENTH!

AND WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE UP TO? KIDNAPPING PEOPLE BY TELEPORT-BEAM AND KEEPING THEM IN TIME-STASIS CAPSULES?
HMM... THIS IS STRANGE! I DIDN'T THINK YOU EARTH-PEOPLE HAD SUCH ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE
NONE OF MY OTHER SPECIMENS DO!

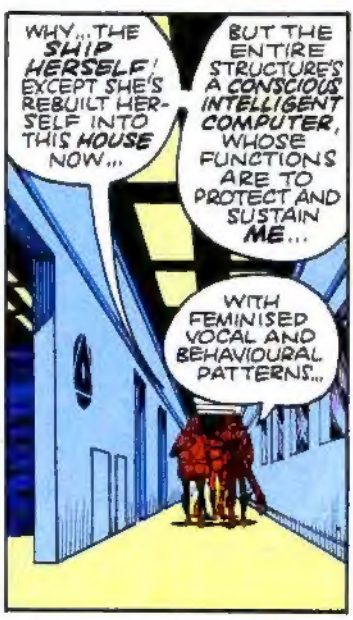
PROBABLY BECAUSE NONE OF YOUR OTHER 'SPECIMENS' ARE TIME-LORDS FROM GALLIFREY!
ACCORDING TO THIS SCANNER, YOU'VE GOT TWO HEART-BEATS!
OH DEAR! I KNEW SHE'D MAKE A MISTAKE SOONER OR LATER!

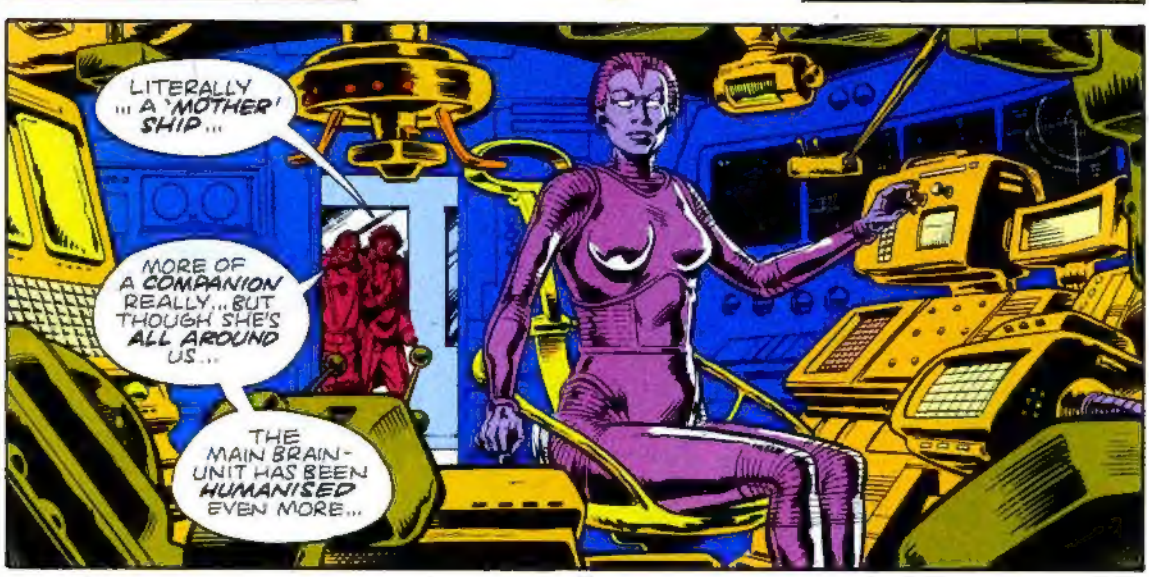
FUNNY THAT... I DIDN'T THINK EARTH HAD MANY OFF-PLANET VISITORS!
WELL, I'LL GET HER TO SEND YOU BACK! SORRY YOU'VE BEEN TROUBLED!
JUST LIKE THAT? I THINK WE DESERVE AN EXPLANATION, AT LEAST!


YES, I SUPPOSE YOU DO! I'M VARAN TAK, FROM THE ANTHROPOLOGY UNIT ON OSKERION...
I WAS GOING TO EARTH TO STUDY THE DEVELOPING CIVILISATION THERE... WHEN WAS IT? ABOUT TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO...! WE WERE THIS CLOSE WHEN A ROGUE ASTEROID KNOCKED OUT THE DRIVE-UNIT... AND MOST OF THE COMMUNICATIONS, TOO...
"PROBABLY STILL BE ANOTHER HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE OUR DISTRESS CALL'S PICKED UP! I'LL BE MIDDLE-AGED BY THEN!"

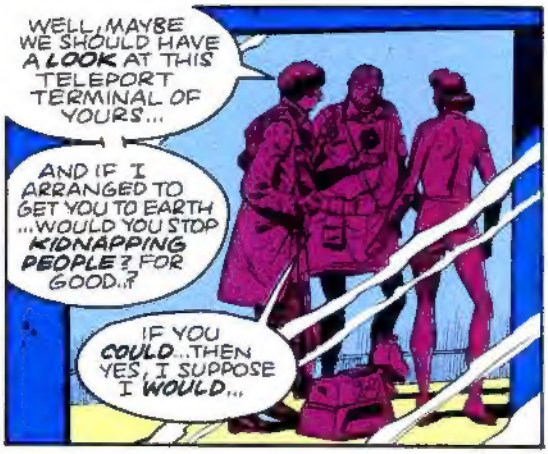
SHE MANAGED TO PUT US DOWN HERE... AND SHE'S BUILT ALL THIS TO KEEP ME ALIVE AND COMFORTABLE...
ALONG WITH THE SHORT-RANGE TELEPORT TERMINAL... USEFUL THAT...

THAT'S HOW I PICK UP SPECIMENS FOR MY ANTHROPOLOGICAL COLLECTION... OH, MAYBE IT'S WRONG TO KIDNAP THEM... BUT STUDY KEEPS ME SANE...
PERHAPS! BUT WHO'S THIS 'SHE'?


WHY... THE SHIP HERSELF! EXCEPT SHE'S REBUILT HERSELF INTO THIS HOUSE NOW...
BUT THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE'S A CONSCIOUS INTELLIGENT COMPUTER, WHOSE FUNCTIONS ARE TO PROTECT AND SUSTAIN ME...
WITH FEMINISED VOCAL AND BEHAVIOURAL PATTERNS...


LITERALLY ... A 'MOTHER' SHIP...
MORE OF A COMPANION REALLY... BUT THOUGH SHE'S ALL AROUND US...
THE MAIN BRAIN-UNIT HAS BEEN HUMANISED EVEN MORE...

BUT WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELEPORT TO EARTH YOURSELF?
HOW I WISH I COULD! SHE'LL AGREE TO SEND YOU BACK...
BUT FOR SOME REASON SHE REFUSES TO LET ME LEAVE!


WELL, MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE A LOOK AT THIS TELEPORT TERMINAL OF YOURS...
AND IF I ARRANGED TO GET YOU TO EARTH ...WOULD YOU STOP KIDNAPPING PEOPLE? FOR GOOD...?
IF YOU COULD...THEN YES, I SUPPOSE I WOULD...

BUT...
SEE! I CAN'T GET NEAR IT... THAT COMES ON AUTOMATICALLY EVERY TIME I APPROACH!
HMM...NASTY LITTLE ELECTRIC ARC PROJECTOR UP THERE...BIT TOO COMPLICATED FOR THE SONIC SCREW-DRIVER...
THIS IS A JOB FOR YOU, K-9 ...PINPOINT BLASTING!

SPZZK!
ALL RIGHT, VARAN TAK, THAT SHOULD HAVE CLEARED UP THE PROBLEM...SO THAT'S OUR SIDE OF THE BAR-GAIN!
MAKE SURE YOU KEEP YOURS!

I WILL ...AND I'LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL!
WELL, THAT SEEMS TO WRAP THAT UP, SHARON!
WASN'T SUCH A BAD SORT, AFTER ALL...

SO LET'S GET BACK TO THE TARDIS BEFORE ...OOPS!
WHAT... HAVE YOU DONE?

K-9... SWITCH TO ELECTRONIC SCRAMBLE...
OH, NO!
SZZZK!
K-9!

POOR OLD K-9! WHAT WILL I DO WITHOUT YOU?
DOCTOR ... THE ROBOT...
FOOLS! ALL OF YOU ...AND VARAN TAK MOST OF ALL!

BUT AS THE TELEPORT GLOWS INTO REVERSE...
TOO LATE! I TRIED TO PROTECT YOU, VARAN TAK... FOR YOU WERE FULL OF NATURAL LIFE...
DEAD? OH DEAR... THAT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN...
AND NOW YOU ARE... SO DEAD...

POISONED...HE HAD NO RESISTANCE TO THE INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION... IN YOUR EARTH'S AIR...
THAT'S WHY... IN RECENT CENTURIES...I I WOULD NOT LET HIM GO!
SHE SEEMS QUITE UPSET, DOCTOR...FOR A ROBOT...

AND WHY NOT? I HAVE... CHERISHED HIM FOR TWENTY CENTURIES... AND NOW...
EVEN A ROBOT CAN FEEL... LONELY...

BUT THEN...
THE INSTRUMENT READINGS WHEN WE LANDED WERE ODD... PERHAPS THERE'S A WAY OUT OF THIS....
BUT IT WOULD MEAN NO MORE TELEPORT-KIDNAPPINGS TO KEEP VARAN TAK HAPPY..!
I DO NOT...UNDERSTAND... BUT IF YOU CAN RESTORE HIM TO LIFE!

ANOTHER MINUTE FINDS THE THREE WHO REMAIN INSIDE THE TARDIS...
I'M HOPING THE RANDOMISER WON'T COME INTO PLAY... AS WE'RE NOT ACTUALLY GOING ANYWHERE...
BUT I THINK WE CAN UTILISE THE TIME-STASIS FIELDS AROUND US TO DO SOMETHING RATHER CLEVER...

AND WHEN THE TARDIS'S MIGHTY ENGINES AGAIN FADE INTO SILENCE...
WE ARE... STILL IN THE SAME PLACE! HOW CAN THIS HELP?
SAME PLACE... DIFFERENT TIME...I THINK! COME ON...
AND HOPE I'VE GOT THIS RIGHT!

RIGHT INDEED, FOR THEY HAVE HOPPED BACK MERE MINUTES, TO...
HMM... NASTY LITTLE ELECTRIC ARC PROJECTOR UP THERE... BIT TOO COMPLICATED FOR...
ONLY ONE WAY QUICK ENOUGH TO STOP THIS... I'M GOING TO HAVE TO...

SOCK MYSELF ON THE JAW!
WOK!
OOF!

NOW, K-9... BLAST THE TELEPORT DEVICE! COMPLETE DESTRUCTION!
NO!
AND THE ROOM REELS WITH A BLINDING, EXPLOSIVE FLASH...
BA-VOOMPF!

YET, WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS...
DOCTOR... OUR DUPLICATE SELVES... THEY'VE DISAP-PEARED!
RIGHT! WHEN I DESTROYED THE TELEPORT, THAT WHOLE FUTURE IN WHICH I SENT VARAN TAK TO EARTH WENT OUT OF EXISTENCE ...ALONG WITH OUR DUPLICATES...
AND THAT MEANS K-9 DIDN'T GET BLOWN UP...

AND VARAN TAK'S STILL ALIVE, TOO!
STILL ALIVE? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO ME?

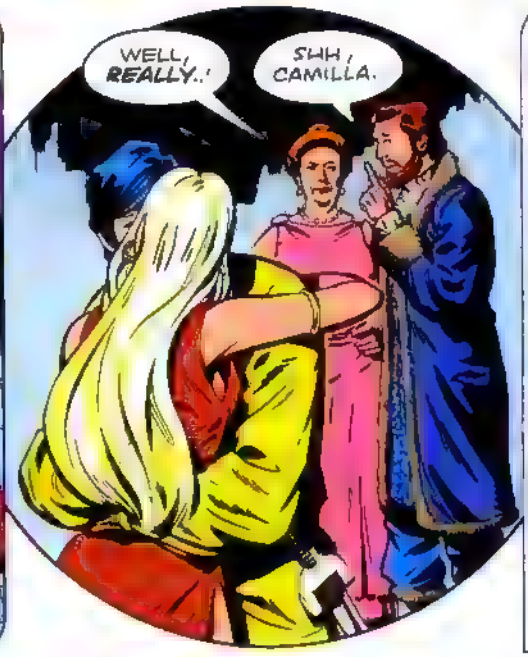
WELL, I'M SURE SHE'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO TELL YOU WHILE YOU'RE WAITING TO BE PICKED UP! AFTER ALL, SHE SAW IT HAPPEN...
AND NOW I THINK WE'LL GET BACK TO THE TARDIS ... BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS TO US!
THE END.

Originally presented in **DOCTOR WHO WEEKLY** #47-48.

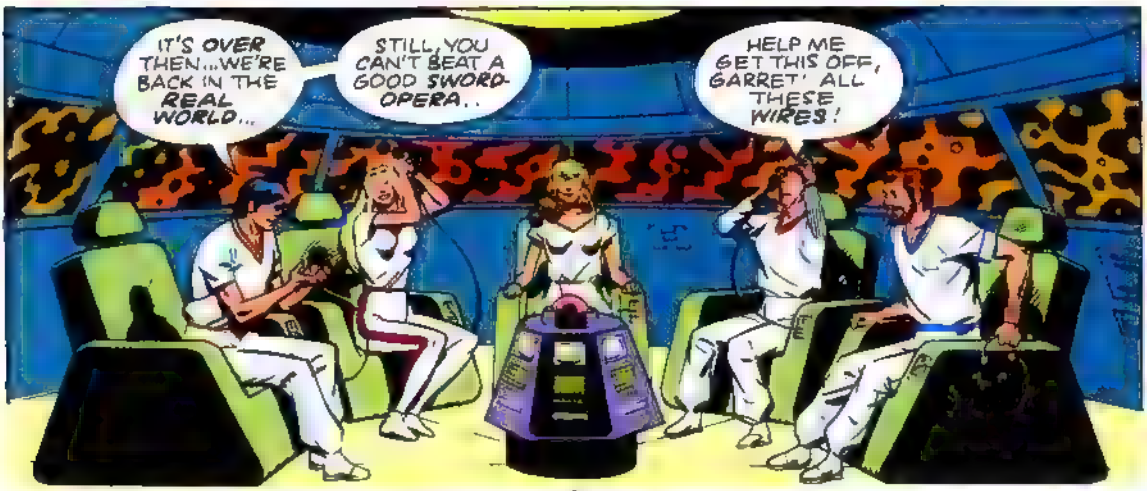
BLASTED KROADS!
AH, I'M THROUGH THEM!
HURRY, KARITH! IT'S --IT'S...

IT'S DEAD, LYAN!
I WOULDN'T LET THAT BRUTE HARM YOU!

IS SHE SAFE, KARITH?
SHE SURELY IS! AND NOT ONE BEAUTIFUL HAIR OUT OF PLACE!


WELL, REALLY..!
SHH, CAMILLA.

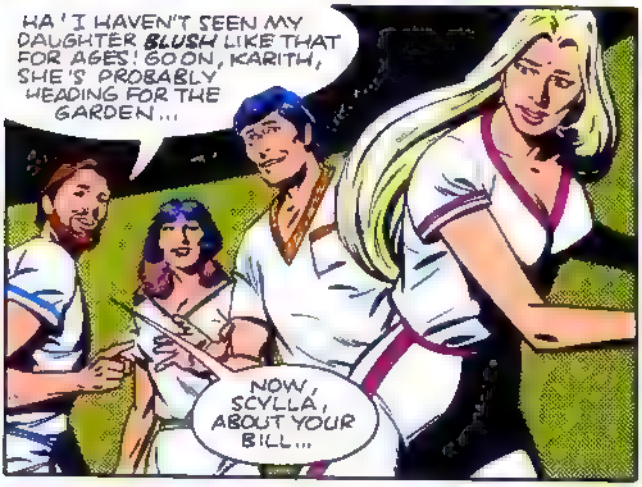
OOOH, KARITH..
MMM.


IT'S OVER THEN...WE'RE BACK IN THE REAL WORLD...
STILL, YOU CAN'T BEAT A GOOD SWORD-OPERA..
HELP ME GET THIS OFF, GARRET! ALL THESE WIRES!

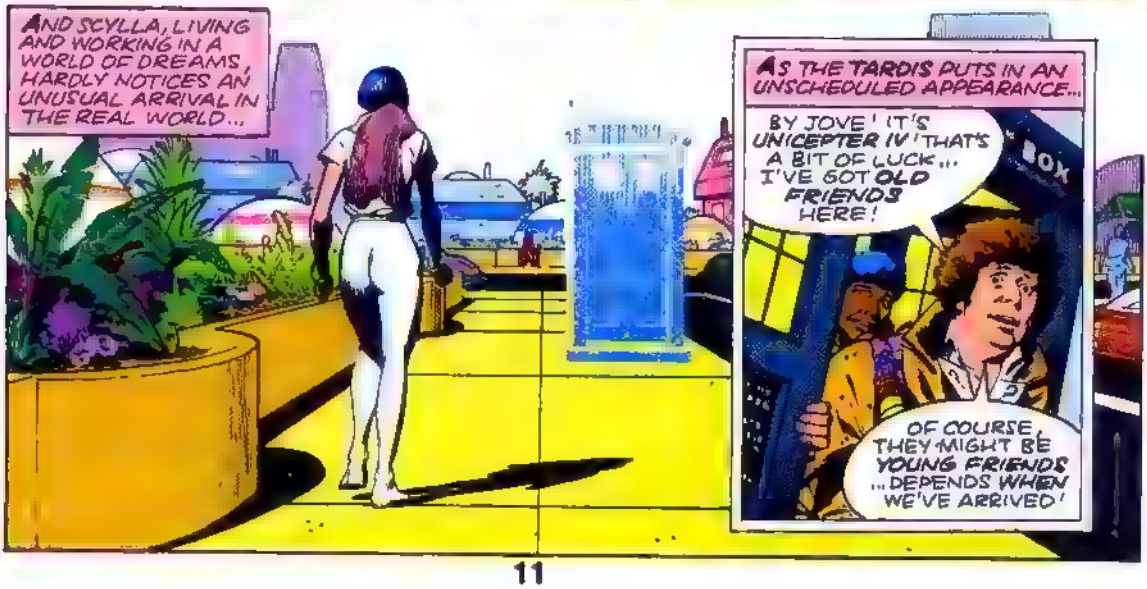
I HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR DREAM, EVERY-ONE!
YES, INDEED! YOU DREAM A GOOD STORY, SCYLLA!
ACTION, HUMOUR, ROMANCE ..IT WAS EXCELLENT!

AH, WELL, I HAD AN EXCELLENT CAST ..IT MAKES THINGS SO MUCH EASIER..
YOU MAKE A DASHING HERO, KARITH...

AND YOU, LYAN, A CHARMING AND BEAUTIFUL HEROINE! A GOOD MATCH FOR HIM...
TOO RIGHT!


HA! I HAVEN'T SEEN MY DAUGHTER BLUSH LIKE THAT FOR AGES! GO ON, KARITH, SHE'S PROBABLY HEADING FOR THE GARDEN...
NOW, SCYLLA, ABOUT YOUR BILL...

'DREAMS DELUXE' WILL INVOICE YOU AS USUAL, MR BERRACE ..BUT NOW I MUST GET ON TO MY NEXT CLIENT...
IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE DREAMING FOR YOU! GOODBYE...


AND SCYLLA, LIVING AND WORKING IN A WORLD OF DREAMS, HARDLY NOTICES AN UNUSUAL ARRIVAL IN THE REAL WORLD...
AS THE TARDIS PUTS IN AN UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCE...
BY JOVE! IT'S UNICEPTER IV! THAT'S A BIT OF LUCK... I'VE GOT OLD FRIENDS HERE!
BOX
OF COURSE, THEY MIGHT BE YOUNG FRIENDS ...DEPENDS WHEN WE'VE ARRIVED!

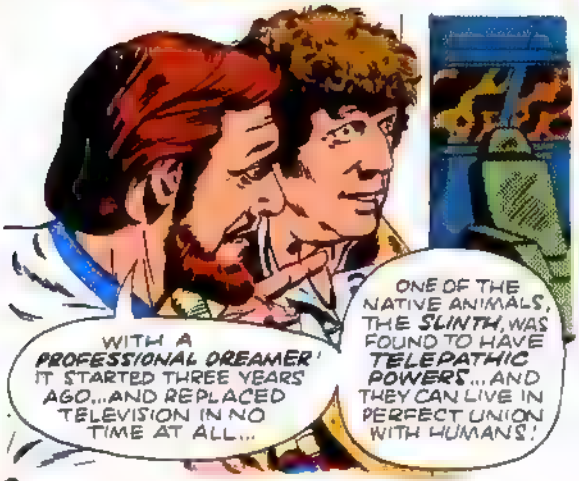
IT'S A FARMING WORLD...MOST OF THE PEOPLE LIVE HERE IN THIS ONE CITY...WHILE ROBOTS DO THE PLANTING AND REAPING...
HMM... THAT'S ODD.

I'D SWEAR THAT WOMAN'S FUR GROWLED AT ME!
YOU MUST BE HEARING THINGS, DOCTOR! COME ON, WHERE ARE YOUR FRIENDS?

AND, SOON ENOUGH..
GARRET BERRACS AND HIS WIFE, CAMILLA! AH, AND WHERE'S THAT LITTLE MINX, LYAN?
LITTLE? COME ON, DOCTOR, I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU...

AHEM!
DOCTOR! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR...WHAT IS IT, SIX OR SEVEN YEARS?
AND THIS IS KARITH ...THEY'RE TO BE MARRIED AT THE NEXT TWO-MOON FESTIVAL...
WELL, HOW TIME FLIES—AS THEY SAY IN MY LINE OF WORK...

WE'VE BEEN HAVING A LOVELY DREAM, DOCTOR!
WHAT, BOTH OF YOU?
NO, ALL OF US!


WITH A PROFESSIONAL DREAMER! IT STARTED THREE YEARS AGO...AND REPLACED TELEVISION IN NO TIME AT ALL...
ONE OF THE NATIVE ANIMALS, THE SLITH, WAS FOUND TO HAVE TELEPATHIC POWERS... AND THEY CAN LIVE IN PERFECT UNION WITH HUMANS!

BERRACE LEADS THE DOCTOR INTO HIS HOUSE'S DREAM-ROOM

THESE HEAD-PIECES CONNECT US TO THE DREAMER... AND WITH THE AID OF THE SLINTH... WE ALL TAKE PART IN A FULLY-CONTROLLED DREAM-STORY... ON WHATEVER SUBJECT WE CHOOSE...

SOME RICH PEOPLE, LIKE LORD VEITH, HAVE PERSONAL DREAMERS ON THEIR PERMANENT STAFF...

OH, DADDY... WE'VE GOT TO GET A DREAMER WHILE THE DOCTOR'S HERE! IT'S THE COMPLETE FRENZY, AFTER ALL!

COMPLETE FRENZY? OH... YOU MEAN IT'S ALL THE RAGE!

WELL, AS LONG AS IT'S NOTHING TOO EXCITING! YOU KNOW WHAT AN UNADVENTUROUS SORT I AM, GARRET...

I'LL SEE IF I CAN HIRE VERNOR ALLEN ...HIS DREAMSCAPES ARE TRULY POETIC..

AS THE DAY FADES SLOWLY INTO NIGHT...

YOU KNOW, DOCTOR, I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU AS A LONER... IT'S A BIT STRANGE TO SEE YOU JUST RELAXING WITH FRIENDS...

WELL, NO ONE SPENDS ALL THEIR TIME FIXING UP THE UNIVERSE, SHARON.

EXCUSE ME, DOCTOR...

I DON'T WANT TO WORRY YOU, DOCTOR, BUT I JUST HEARD THERE'S BEEN AN ACCIDENT! LORD VEITH, HIS DREAMER, AND TWO OTHERS HAVE BEEN KILLED...

THEY THINK IT WAS AN ELECTRICAL FAULT, BUT THEY'RE STILL WORKING THERE...

IT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE, SO IT'S PROBABLY JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS! STILL, I'LL CHECK ALL MY APPARATUS...

RIGHT ...AND I THINK I'LL HAVE A QUICK WORD WITH K-9...

AND NOT LONG AFTER THE CHECKS HAVE BEEN MADE

GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE... I'M VERNOR ALLEN, YOUR DREAMER FOR TONIGHT..

AND I SEE WE'VE GOT OFF-WORLD VISITORS, TOO! THIS IS VERY PLEASANT..

SO THIS 'S YOUR SLINTH, VERNOR, ER IS HE SAFE TO TOUCH?

OF COURSE! A SLINTH IS A DREAMER'S BEST FRIEND! HIS NAME'S MIKI

HASN'T LEFT MY SHOULDER FOR NEARLY THREE YEARS

AND ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN THIS DREAM, VERNOR?

I'M AFRAID NOT.. THE DREAMER'S TOO BUSY CONTROLLING THINGS..

THAT'S A SHAME..

THEN, AS THEY ENTER THE DREAM-ROOM.

IF YOU'RE ALL COMFORTABLE..? WE'LL BE DREAMING 'THE FIRST LANDING ON THE BLISS-WORLD OF ANSILLAR'...YOU'LL PLAY MEMBERS OF THE SURVEY TEAM..

AH, THERE YOU ARE, K-9..BEHAVE YOUR-SELF...

AND THE NEXT THING THEY KNOW...

BY JOVE! IT'S ALMOST REAL...THE SPACE-SHIP.. THE SUIT..

YOU DON'T NEED THE HELMET, DOCTOR ...ANSILLAR'S GOT A BREATHABLE ATMOSPHERE..

QUITE REMARKABLE! IT EVEN SMELLS LIKE ANOTHER WORLD!

AND LOOK AT THAT CITY ON THE HORIZON... SPARKLING LIKE A JEWEL!

SEVEN MOONS, KARITH ..THAT'S FIVE MORE THAN WE'VE GOT ON UNICEPTER..

AND THEN..

LOOK! A PROCESSION COMING THIS WAY.

AND THAT MUSIC, SO STRANGE, SO HAUNTING...

NOW THAT IS SOME KIND OF WELCOMING COMMITTEE FOR A GROUP OF OFF-WORLDERS!

BUT AS THE PROCESSION DRAWS CLOSER ..

HOLD ON ... THAT MAN UNDER THE CANOPY...

IT'S LORD VEITH! BUT..HE'S DEAD!

AND HE LOOKS IT, TOO!

THERE'S SCYLLA ..AND ENOX... AND...

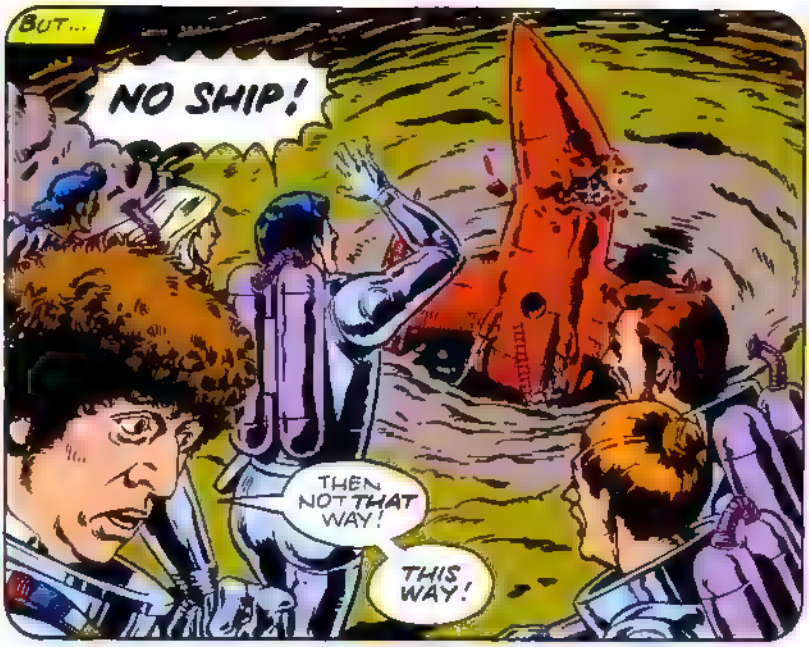
AND IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D THINK THEY WERE DEAD, TOO...

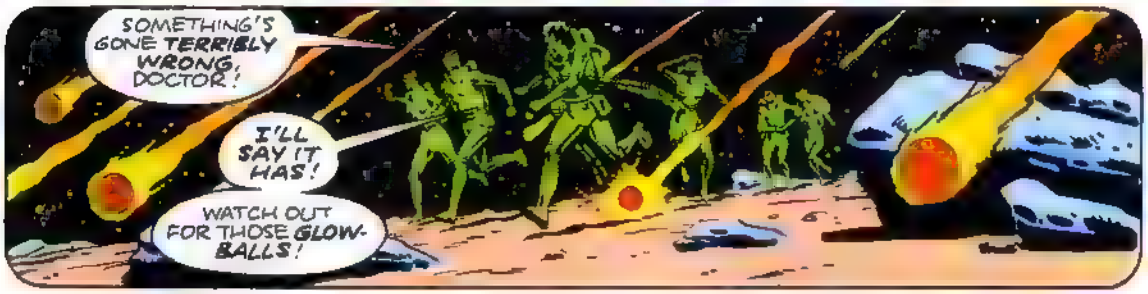
LOOK!

THE FLYING NYMPHS! THEY'RE TURNING INTO...

DEVIL BIRDS!

BUT THIS WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN! IT'S NOT AN ADVENTURE DREAM!
WE HAVEN'T GOT ANY WEAPONS!
BACK TO THE SHIP!


BUT...
NO SHIP!
THEN NOT THAT WAY!
THIS WAY!


SOMETHING'S GONE TERRIBLY WRONG, DOCTOR!
I'LL SAY IT HAS!
WATCH OUT FOR THOSE GLOW-BALLS!

LOOK UP AHEAD! IT'S SOMEONE IN A CAGE!
OH, NO! IT'S VERNOR!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I'VE LOST CONTROL SOMEHOW! WE COULD ALL DIE OF MENTAL SHOCK!
THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED TO MIKI AND I BEFORE..
AND WHERE IS YOUR SLINTH?

GOOD LORD!
I'M SORRY I ASKED!
EEEEEE!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT US, INTO THIS, VERNOR ...CAN'T YOU DO ANY-THING?
THAT HORDE OF DEAD MEN IS GETTING CLOSER! WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE!
BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE VERNOR HERE...
AND THE SLINTH'S IN THE OTHER DIRECTION...
MIND YOU, IF THIS IS ONLY A DREAM, NOTHING OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO HURT US... AND...
OH DEAR...
PUT ME DOWN AT ONCE!
DOCTOR!
YOU'RE NOT LISTENING, ARE YOU?
DREAMERS OF DEATH
PART TWO

WHILE, IN THE BERRACE'S DREAM-ROOM, ALL SEEMS NORMAL EXCEPT..

PULSE-RATE APPROACHING CRITICAL LIMIT... BREATHING QUICKENING...

SEVERING CONNECTION, AS INSTRUCTED!

AND THE DOCTOR IS JERKED BACK TO REALITY WITH SHOCKING SUDDENNESS...

WHAT?! I'M BACK IN THE BERRACE'S HOUSE...

THANKS, K-9...THAT WAS CLOSE...

BUT NOW I'VE GOT TO GET THE OTHERS OUT OF TROUBLE TOO!

AND THE EASIEST WAY IS TO CUT THINGS OFF AT THE SOURCE..BY TAKING VERNOR'S DREAM-HELMET OFF!

AND THEN..

WE'RE BACK ...I DIDN'T THINK WE'D EVER GET OUT OF THAT ...ESPECIALLY AFTER YOU DISAPPEARED, DOCTOR!

THOUGHT THE SLINTH HAD KILLED YOU..

OH, KARITH, I'VE GOT SUCH A HEAD-ACHE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WENT WRONG ...IT WAS AS IF I WAS BEING TAKEN OVER BY...

...MIKI?

GRRRR...

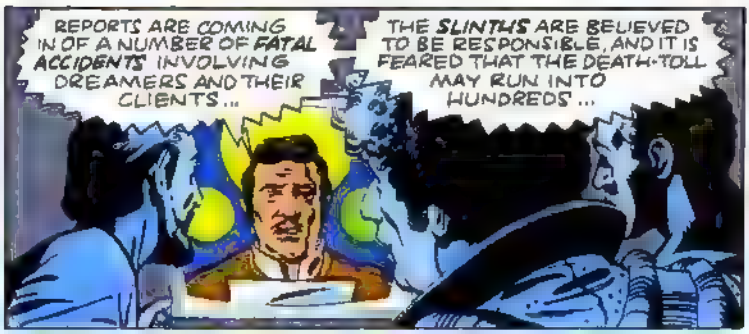
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, VERNOR.. THIS THING'S DANGEROUS.
SNARRR!

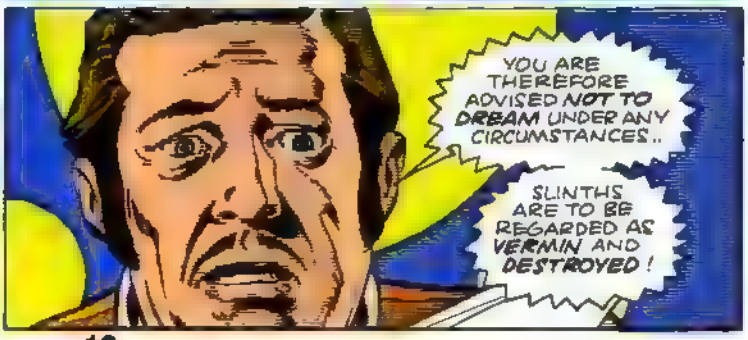
IT LOOKS ALMOST BLOATED!
MIKI! COME BACK!

NO, LET IT GO! NOW, IS EVERYONE ALRIGHT?
I THINK SO... BUT HOW DID YOU SAVE US, DOCTOR?

I WAS SUSPICIOUS WHEN I HEARD ABOUT LORD VEITH BEING KILLED... AND AS THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A PEACEFUL, POETIC DREAM..
I TOLD K-9 TO MONITOR MY REACTIONS... SO IF I GOT TOO EXCITED, HE'D BREAK THE CONNECTION..

BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND. WE'VE NEVER HAD TROUBLE WITH SLINTHS BEFORE.
HOLD ON ..THAT'S THE GENERAL ALARM SIREN ...I'D BETTER SWITCH ON THE VIS-NEWS!
WWEEE!! WWEEE!!

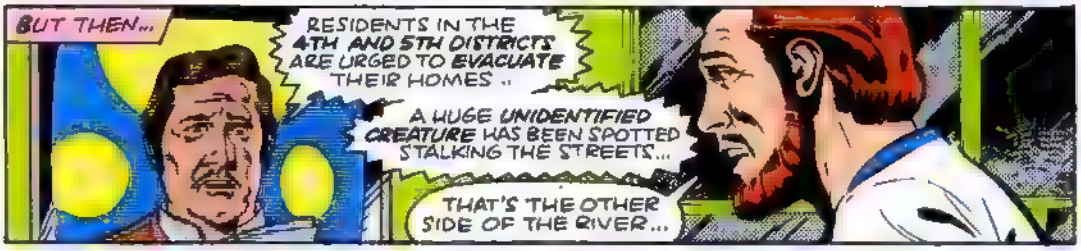

REPORTS ARE COMING IN OF A NUMBER OF FATAL ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DREAMERS AND THEIR CLIENTS...
THE SLINTHS ARE BELIEVED TO BE RESPONSIBLE, AND IT IS FEARED THAT THE DEATH-TOLL MAY RUN INTO HUNDREDS...

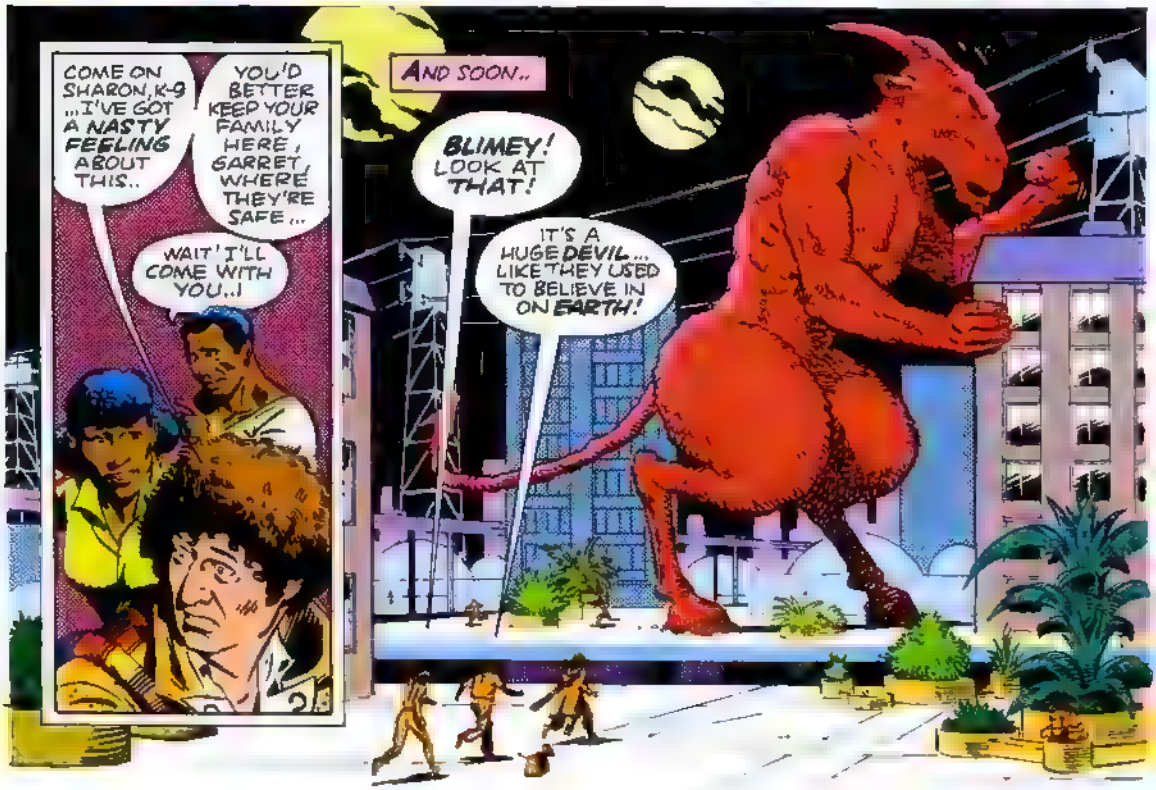

YOU ARE THEREFORE ADVISED NOT TO DREAM UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES..
SLINTHS ARE TO BE REGARDED AS VERMIN AND DESTROYED!

THIS IS TERRIBLE! SLINTHS ARE GOOD .. THEY GIVE US DREAMS ..
BUT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN GIVING THEM ANYTHING IN RETURN ... AND NOTHING'S FREE!

DURING THE DREAMS, THEY MUST HAVE BEEN FEEDING ON PEOPLE'S PSYCHIC ENERGY ... A LITTLE AT A TIME AT FIRST ..
UNTIL THEY FELT STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE A MASS ATTACK! THEY'RE LIKE PSYCHIC VAMPIRES...

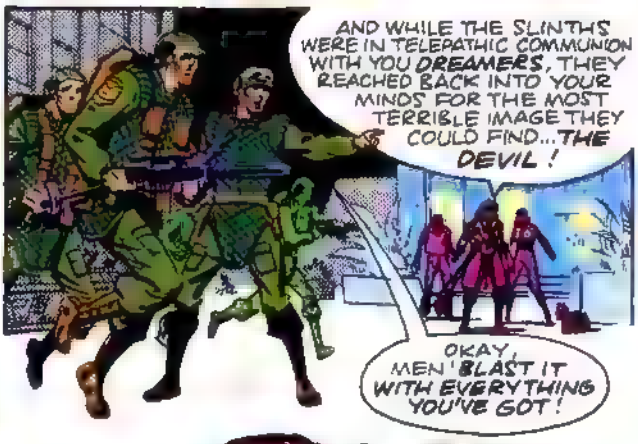
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT
BUT LIFE'S GOING TO SEEM AWFULLY EMPTY WITHOUT THAT FRIENDLY LITTLE FURBALL SITTING ON MY SHOULDER ...SHARING MY THOUGHTS...

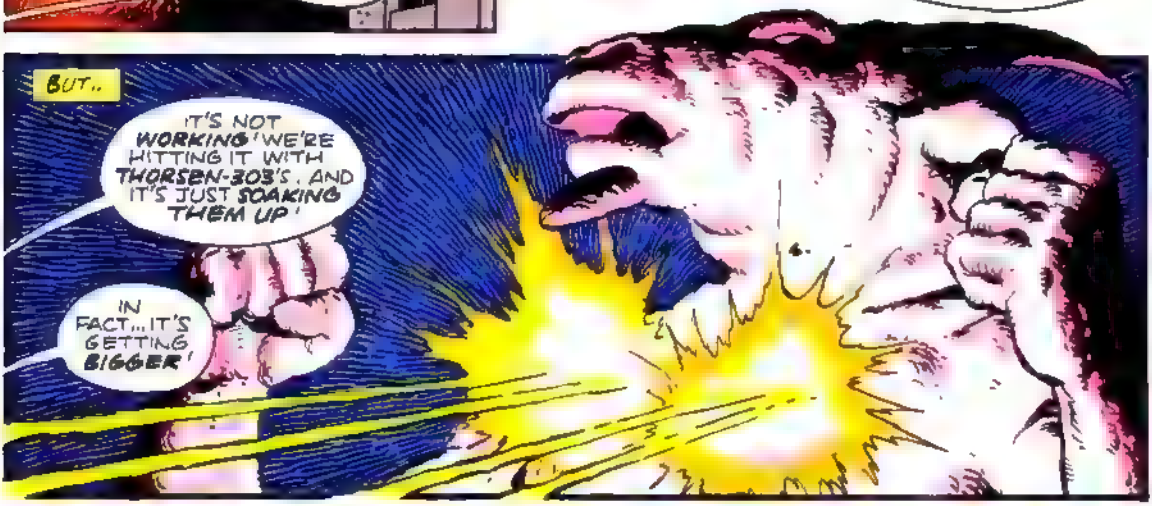

BUT THEN...
RESIDENTS IN THE 4TH AND 5TH DISTRICTS ARE URGED TO EVACUATE THEIR HOMES ..
A HUGE UNIDENTIFIED CREATURE HAS BEEN SPOTTED STALKING THE STREETS...
THAT'S THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER...


COME ON SHARON, K-9 ...I'VE GOT A NASTY FEELING ABOUT THIS..
YOU'D BETTER KEEP YOUR FAMILY HERE, GARRET, WHERE THEY'RE SAFE...
WAIT! I'LL COME WITH YOU..!
AND SOON..
BLIMEY! LOOK AT THAT!
IT'S A HUGE DEVIL... LIKE THEY USED TO BELIEVE IN ON EARTH!

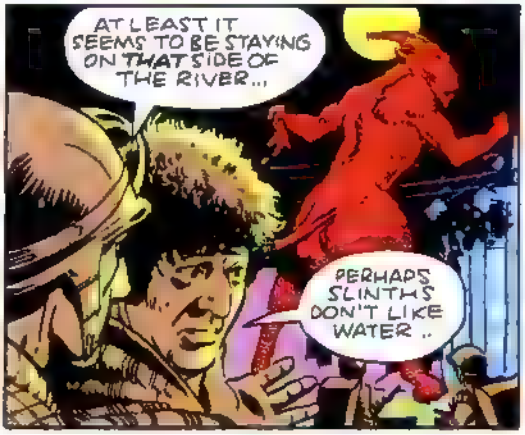
BUT ITS BODY'S MADE UP OF HUNDREDS OF SLINTHS, ACTING TOGETHER AS A GROUP MIND, WITH A SINGLE BODY
BUT WHY MAKE A DEVIL?

BECAUSE FEAR AND TERROR GENERATE MOST PSYCHIC ENERGY FOR THEM TO FEED ON...
HERE COMES THE MILITARY..


AND WHILE THE SLINTHS WERE IN TELEPATHIC COMMUNION WITH YOU DREAMERS, THEY REACHED BACK INTO YOUR MINDS FOR THE MOST TERRIBLE IMAGE THEY COULD FIND...THE DEVIL!
OKAY, MEN! BLAST IT WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!

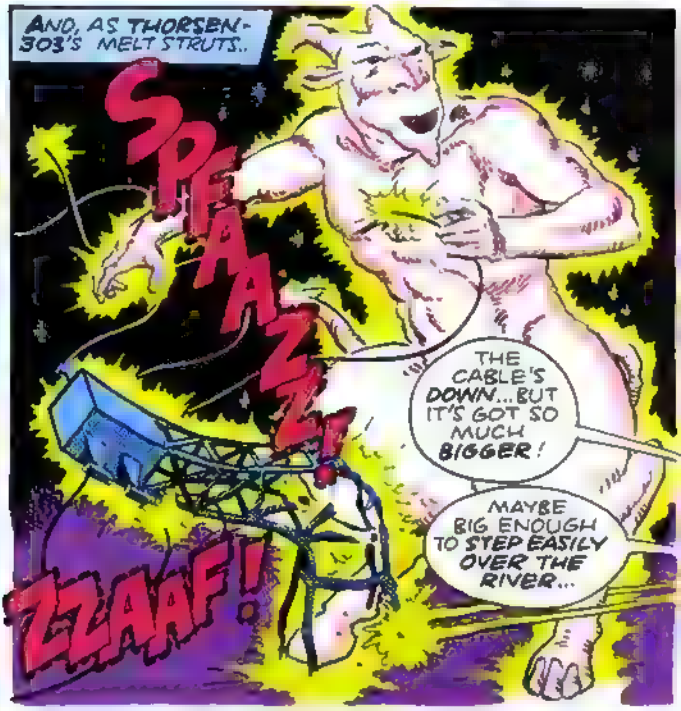

BUT..
IT'S NOT WORKING! WE'RE HITTING IT WITH THORSEN-303'S, AND IT'S JUST SOAKING THEM UP!
IN FACT...IT'S GETTING BIGGER!

TELL YOUR MEN TO CEASE FIRE, CAPTAIN! THE SLINTHS ARE JUST ABSORBING THE ENERGY!
OLD-FASHIONED PROJECTILE WEAPONS MIGHT WORK, BUT...
COME ON, SHARON, WE'LL BE BACK, DOCTOR...


AT LEAST IT SEEMS TO BE STAYING ON THAT SIDE OF THE RIVER...
PERHAPS SLINTHS DON'T LIKE WATER..

IN THE BRIEF LULL THAT FOLLOWS..
WE'VE GOT ALL THE EMERGENCY SERVICES HERE.. FIRE, AMBULANCE, POLICE...
BUT IF THAT THING CROSSES OVER..
CAPTAIN! IT'S MOVING TOWARDS THOSE POWER-LINES!
FIRE
FIRE

IT'S ABSORBING ENERGY FROM THE CABLES! EATING ELECTRICITY!
QUICK! DESTROY THAT PYLON!


AND, AS THORSEN-303'S MELT STRUTS..
SPEAAZ!
ZZAAF!
THE CABLE'S DOWN... BUT IT'S GOT SO MUCH BIGGER!
MAYBE BIG ENOUGH TO STEP EASILY OVER THE RIVER...

MAYBE I CAN SLOW IT DOWN! SHARON AND I...UH ...STOLE THIS OLD BULLET-FIRING RIFLE FROM THE MUSEUM...
COURSE, I HATE TO THINK ONE OF THE SLINTHS I SHOOT MIGHT BE MIKI, BUT...

I'M SHOOTING HOLES IN IT.. KNOCKING ONE OR TWO SLINTHS OFF...
BUT THE MAIN BODY'S STILL COMING ON...
IT'S GOING TO CROSS..

LOOK OUT! SHARON! IT'S TRYING TO CRUSH US!
Y!!!

IT'S ACROSS! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN STOP IT! WE'LL HAVE TO WITH-DRAW!
AHA OF COURSE... THAT'S WHY THE SLINTHS AVOIDED THE RIVER!
PULL OUT! EVERYONE EVACUATE!

QUICK! GET ME TWENTY YARDS OF BARE CABLE!
NOW, COME HERE, K-9! I'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU!

AND, INSTANTS LATER...
ALL RIGHT, K-9 I WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS CABLE ...AND HEAD TOWARDS THAT BRUTE...

THEN LOOP IT ROUND THE THING'S ANKLE..

BUT JUST AS K-9 COMPLETES HIS TASK...
HE'S STOPPED, DOCTOR .. WHAT'S GONE WRONG?
NO TIME FOR THAT NOW, SHARON...
WHERE'S THAT FIRE-ENGINE?
B-BUT, DOCTOR ...?
THAT THING'S BLOATED WITH ELECTRICAL ENERGY...
SO IF I DOUSE IT WITH WATER...

ZZZAKK!
ZZAPP!
SPFAZZ!
IT'S SHORTING OUT! THE CABLE'S DRAINING IT!
AND IT'S SHRINKING!

NOW IT'S FALLING APART THE SLINTHS ARE RETURNING TO NORMAL SIZE...
WE'LL SOON MOP THEM UP NOW!

THANKS, DOCTOR-- WHOEVER YOU ARE...
HOW'S K-9?
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, THAT THING DRAINED HIS ELECTRICITY, TOO. BUT IT'S JUST A FLAT BATTERY!

AND SO, A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER, AT THE BERRACE'S HOUSE
IT'S BEEN GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, GARRET... BUT I'D BETTER TRY TO GET SHARON HOME AGAIN.
ER, DOCTOR ... I THINK THIS S GOING TO BE HOME FROM NOW ON...

THERE'S NOTHING FOR ME TO GO BACK TO BLACKCASTLE FOR. NOT SINCE I GREW UP..
AND, VERNOR'S GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE A NEW LIFE FOR HIMSELF NOW THERE'S NO MORE DREAMING. SO WE THOUGHT WE'D START TOGETHER.
WE'LL LOOK AFTER HER, DOCTOR, DON'T WORRY...
WELL, I'LL MISS YOU, SHARON...
BUT K-9 AND I HAD BETTER GO..

COME BACK AND SEE US SOMETIME, DOCTOR!
I'LL TRY, SHARON. BUT YOU KNOW THE TARDIS
IF I SET THE CONTROLS FOR UNICEPTER IT'LL PROBABLY PUT ME IN BLACK-CASTLE

THE END.

ABSLOM DAAK

DALEK-KILLER

Part Three

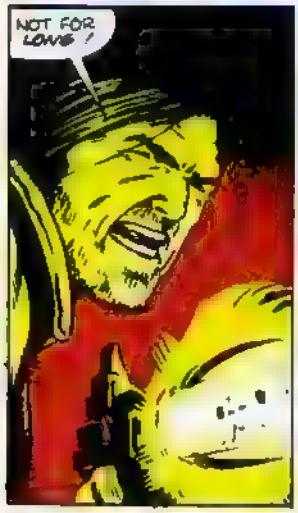
THE 26th CENTURY EARTHMAN ABSLOM DAAK, CONVICTED MURDERER HAS BEEN EXILED TO THE PLANET MAZAAN RECENTLY CONQUERED BY THE DALEK EMPIRE. WITH NO HOPE OF RETURN HIS ONLY TASK IS TO KILL AS MANY DALEKS AS HE CAN BEFORE THEY KILL HIM

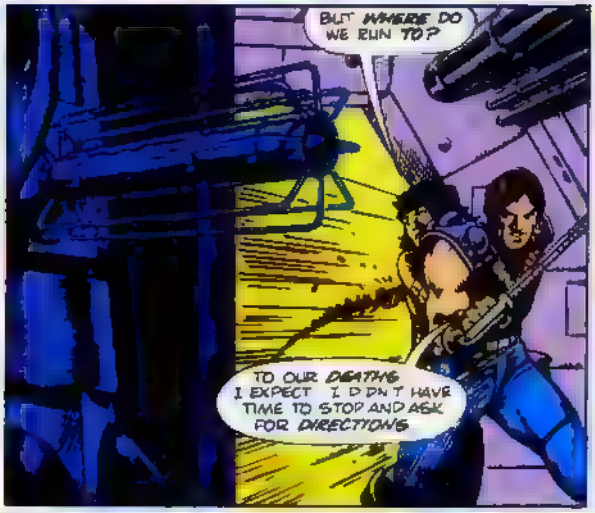
RUN, WOMAN! THERE'S NO GOING BACK NOW!

BUT THEY'RE COMING IN AFTER US!

INTRUDER ALERT! ATTACK! ATTACK! ATTACK!

AND NOW, ACCOMPANIED BY PRINCESS TALVIN, EX-RULER OF MAZAAN, HE HAS FOUGHT HIS WAY TO THE VERY ENTRY-PORT OF THE DALEK BASE-SHIP.





Originally presented in **DOCTOR WHO WEEKLY** #20.

YET AS THEY MOVE DEEPER INTO THE HEART OF THE WRECK SHIP...

LOOK! AN ESCAPE-CAPSULE! WE COULD STILL GET OUT OF HERE!

YOU TAKE IT THEN LADY! I'VE STILL GOT SOME BUSINESS TO FINISH!

NO, I'LL WAIT FOR YOU. I'VE GOT THIS BLASTER...

CHANCES OF MY GETTING BACK HERE ARE A BIT LESS THAN ZERO! WHY DON'T YOU GO IF YOU WANT TO LIVE?

BECAUSE I ..I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT YOU, ABGLOM DMAK!

DUMB BROAD! LISTEN, CUDDLES . NEVER GET INVOLVED WITH WOMEN!

DO NOT UNDERSTAND!

NO DON'T SUPPOSE YOU WOULD...

AND, IN THE NEXT CORRIDOR...

THE COMMAND-CELL IS AHEAD!

YOU WILL NOT EXTERMINATE ME?

ME DO A THING LIKE THAT? NO..!

CAN'T SAY THE SAME ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS THOUGH!

SO LONG CUDDLES.

KRAK!

INTRUDER! INTRUDER!

COMMANDER! INTRUDER APPROACHING!

DANGER! DANGER!

BA BOOOM!

DOOR CLOSED!

TEK!

STAND GUARD! INTRUDER MUST NOT ENTER!

AUT...

KRA-P!

AND
OPEN FIRE! OPEN FIRE!
I ALREADY HAVE DALEK!
EMERGENCY! ALL UNITS RETURN!
SOME PRESENTS FOR YOU YOU TIN TYRANT! EVERY BOMB I'VE GOT LEFT! GIVES YOU ABOUT 30 SECONDS TO GET OUT OF THERE!
BUT I AM UNABLE TO MOVE!
AWW! NOW AIN'T THAT A SHAME!
BUT MEANWHILE, TALVIN HAS PROBLEMS OF HER OWN
POWER-PACK ON THIS BLASTER'S RUNNING DOWN!
FZZAK!
OH WHERE IS HE? I CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER!
AND THEN
OOOH!
GET IN AND LAUNCH THIS THING YOU CRAZY WOMAN!
THERE'S ABOUT TWO SECONDS BEFORE
... SHE BLOWS!
KABOOOOOM!
YOU'VE DONE IT, ABSLOM AND SURVIVED!
YEAH IN A WAY I'M ALMOST GLAD...
ISN'T THAT WEIRD??
PROBABLY STILL A FEW STRAY DALEK SURVIVORS AROUND PRINCESS BUT I GUESS YOUR PEOPLE CAN MOP THEM UP
OH LET'S NOT WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW! MY SPACE YACHT'S HIDDEN NOT FAR FROM HERE
WE'LL FLY BACK TO MY PALACE AND THEN WHEN IT'S ALL OVER WE CAN LIVE IN A FREE WORLD, TOGETHER
NOW HOLD ON, PRINCESS... I'M A MURDERER, REMEMBER? I WAS SENT HERE TO DIE. YOU SURE YOU WANT A MAN LIKE ME?

OH YES, ABSLOM BECAUSE I LOVE Y-OOOOH!!
WHA... TAIYIN!
YOU MURDERING RAT!!
BA-BOOOOM!
YOU POOR KID.. JUST WHEN YOU.
I AM HAPPY.. TO DIE IN YOUR ARMS ABSLOM
BUT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME! I WAS THE ONE UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH
NO ABSLOM FOR YOU THE SENTENCE IS HARDER
YOU HAVE TO LIVE...
TAIYIN
I'M GONNA KILL EVERY DAMNED STINKING DALEK IN THE GALAXY!
I'LL DO BETTER THAN JUST LIVE
NEXT: THE STAR TIGERS!

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DEC-84

Bullpen Bulletins

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The year Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Four was the most successful year in Marvel's glorious history — the latest in a string of six record years in succession. Not too bad, huh? It's *still* the Marvel Age . . . and we're gaining speed! We work hard around here trying to deserve your support . . . and we really appreciate it. Thanks a lot, from all of us.

HOW DO YOU FOLLOW AN ACT LIKE THAT?

I'm *so* glad you asked. What we've got for 1985 is something to see. For instance, *SECRET WARS II*. That's right — the most successful comics series in a quarter century is going to have a *sequel*, written by me, penciled by Sal Buscema, and inked by Steve Leialoha. It will be a nine-issue limited series, the first issue of which will be on sale in April. It'll feature *every single Marvel hero* and the story told in *Secret Wars II* will cross over into every single Marvel Universe title! It's going to make history. Watch for it.

There are many more nifty things coming of course. Watch the hype box!

AND NOW, CONTINUING MY PROUD TRADITION . . .

Once again, I will *not* present you with a list of New Year's Resolutions. I, frankly, usually find other people's resolutions cliché and tiresome. I'll bet you do, too.

OH, AND BY THE WAY . . .

If you live near New York, or if you're ever visiting here, be sure to stop and see the BARKING DOG MUSEUM. It's small — basically just the storefront window of 46 Grand Street in Manhattan's colorful Soho district — but worth a look. It features the surrealist-inspired, mixed-media assemblages of one Richard Parker, visual artist and . . . strange person. If the name sounds familiar, it's because Rick also *letters* some of your favorite Marvel titles — which isn't why I'm plugging his showplace. The fact is, I think Rick's work is *fantastic*. Years from now, when he's garnered the acclaim from the art world that he's sure to get, I'll be proudly pointing out to everyone that I knew it all along!

We were all greatly saddened to learn of the death of Don Newton last August 19. He was an excellent artist and a fine man.

The comics business, and the world, also lost Phil Seuling during 1984. Phil was the comics distributor who virtually singlehandedly created the direct sales distribution system. We all owe him a lot. He was a wonderful man, and we'll miss him.

Best,

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

HYPE BOX

STAR COMICS — It's the birth of a whole new line of comics, and you're all invited to celebrate! Join the stars — PLANET TERRY, WALLY THE WIZARD, TOP DOG, HEATHCLIFF, STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE, and the Fraggles of FRAGGLE ROCK — in the fun-filled first issues of their own comic books! Laughs, adventure, jokes, intrigue — they're all here in each Star Comic! If you want a rollicking good time, don't miss a single Star! On sale *now* wherever you buy Marvel Comics!

MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS #12 — This is it, the dynamic conclusion to the most spectacular war ever presented in the history of comics! You've been witnessing the alliances, seeing the battles, and watching the mystery grow for a full year. Now, at last, you will find out the awesome secret of the Beyonder! Join JIM SHOOTER, MIKE ZECK and JOHN BEATTY in this universe-shaking, double-sized *final issue extravaganza!*

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #1 — Spidey's adventures continue in this, his brand-new comic title! Or are his adventures coming to a frightening finish when he faces the threat of his deadly Black Costume? Don't miss "Till Death Do Us Part," by LOUISE SIMONSON, GREG LAROCQUE and JIM MOONEY!

ROM #65 — It's been building up for over five years, and now it's coming to a mind-numbing conclusion! That's right, it's the *end of the Wraith War*, with the Dire Wraiths making an all-out assault on mankind! Standing between them and victory are Rom, the Avengers, the Defenders, and the X-Men! (But where are the Fantastic Four? Find out in *FF #277!*) Story by BILL MANTLO! Art by STEVE DITKO and P. CRAIG RUSSELL!

THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1 — This premiere issue gives you the complete lowdown on what happened in the first 29 issues of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! Included are full-color cover reproductions, complete creator credits and major character appearances for each issue, *and* a synopsis of every story! Compiler GEORGE OLSHEVSKY brings you a mountain of information in a clear, concise style! And this is only the beginning! No true Spider-Fan can afford to miss this one — look for the JOHN BYRNE cover in comics shops everywhere!

CHECK LIST

STAR COMICS

- ☐ **PLANET TERRY #1** — Join Terry and his friends as they search the galaxy for Terry's parents!
- ☐ **FRAGGLE ROCK #1** — The stars of television become the stars of their own comic book! The fun never stops at Fraggle Rock!
- ☐ **STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE #1** — Fun and surprises await you with Strawberry Shortcake and her friends! Introducing Strawberry's nemesis, Raisin Cane!
- ☐ **WALLY THE WIZARD #1** — Wally's finding out that it's not easy being an apprentice wizard — so many things can go wrong!
- ☐ **TOP DOG #1** — Not only can Top Dog talk, but he also leads a secret life! Find out more in this first issue!
- ☐ **HEATHCLIFF #1** — That world-famous cat is getting his own comic book, and the laughs are just beginning!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **THE THING #22**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #217**
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #26**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #1** — A new monthly comic featuring your favorite web-slinger! See Hype Box.
- ☐ **RED SONJA #8**
- ☐ **ICEMAN (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS (Limited Series) #12** — The end of the war to end all wars! See Hype Box!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #263** — Featuring the Amazing Spider-Kid!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #304** — The shattering climax! Don't miss it!
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #28**
- ☐ **POWER PACK #9**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #7**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #21**
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #70**
- ☐ **DUNE (Limited Series) #1** — The Marvel adaptation of the hit science fiction movie, by RALPH MACCHIO and BILL SIENKIEWICZ
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #306**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #254** — Absolute Vision! It's absolutely the end!
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #169**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #174** — Reprinting "The Molten Man Regrets . . . !" by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, from *Amazing Spider-Man #35*
- ☐ **X-MEN #192**
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WHO CARES

Send your letters to: **DOCTOR WHO**, Marvel Comics Group
387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Lord President (Editor):

Who cares? I care! I love this comic book of yours! It's great! I also like your printing the **Tom Baker** stories, though for variety's sake I believe that once in a while you should put in a special story with another **Doctor**. A suggestion is to make the comics less than book-length, but longer than a regular comic's standard length. By the way, congratulations to **Andy Yanchus**! The color is superb! Also congratulations to **Irving Forbush** for being an honorable "Waste of Time." I like your cover logo and the cover artistry is great thanks to **Dave Gibbons**. Happy TARDIS travels!

Alex Afterman
(Renegade Time Lord)
San Francisco, CA

Thanks, *Alex*.

Dear **WHO** people,

DOCTOR WHO is the best comic around. I read that after awhile you are going to make new stories for the comic. Are they going to be original stories or adaptations of the episodes? I strongly hope you make some adaptations of the episodes. If you do, here are some of my suggestions: "Earthshock," "Black Orchid," "Mawdryn Undead," and "The Five Doctors" all from the fifth **Doctor's** era, and "The Force of Evil," "Invasion of Time," "City of Death," and "Full Circle" all from the fourth **Doctor's** era. I hope you will consider these in the future.

Darryl A. Christensen
12863 Town & Four Drive
St. Louis, MI 63141

"The Five Doctors" is the story that we receive the most requests to adapt into comics form, *Darryl*. Let's just say we're looking into it.

Dear **Jim**,

Just decided the drop into your part of N-Space (or C-Space, in this instance) to wish a round of congrats to all you wonderful, charming and creative people who made **the Doctor** come to life in full "sense-a-round" color! It's amazing what wonderful things happen when you add a dash of red, blue, and yellow onto a page of comics! Having collected **DOCTOR WHO WEEKLY** and **MONTHLY** since 1980, reading these revamped copies is like opening my eyes for the first time — *Wow!* For this I must send an extra special thanks to **Andy Yanchus**. **Dave Gibbons** must have gone through quite a few ink bottles and brushes to make this possible. I think they may soon be running out of the parameters of available printing colors!? Oops! Time to invent a few more!

I am especially impressed by the printing quality which nearly outpaces the originals! Let's hope it stays this way. I also like the fact that you finally decided to tell everyone where you got these stories from. I was beginning to think you wanted to keep it a secret. These issues deserve just as much credit as ours. I was wondering, as this new comic is supposed to be an American counterpart to the British version, would it be possible to include a section on American *Doctor Who* programming and merchandise, plus fandom? Perhaps even run your own **DOCTOR WHO** poll? Hint, hint! This is one area that the British magazine is a bit unfair on. They never give U.S. fans a chance to give their opinions. Maybe they don't realize some of us are no longer trapped in a cronic Historisis! What does the rest of the readership think?

It goes without saying that this comic's adventures of the Doctor's is something we've been needing for a long, long time. I can't wait to see what the new issues will have in store for us! So until next time . . . never trust a smiling **Ogron**!

Helen Lesser
27 Fairweather Dr.
Norwalk, CT 06851

We agree, *Helen!* But we need everyone's help! Send us news on all things *DOCTOR WHO* and we'll start running it here. Let us know about your fan clubs, conventions, whatever! This magazine is your magazine — just tell us what you want!

I Care:

My annoyance has compounded itself into this letter over the first four issues of **DOCTOR WHO**.

Issue #1: What, pray tell, is this misbegotten reference to the randomiser? **The Doctor** expects to get to Benidorm, and says he is using the randomiser. The intent of the randomiser was to prevent him from anticipating his destination! Furthermore, the only possible place these comics could fit into the continuum of the TV series is between the stories "The Invasion of Time" and "The Ribos Operation" (criteria: Fourth **Doctor**, **K-9**, no other companions). **The Doctor** did not construct or install the randomiser until a full year thereafter (at the end of "The Armageddon Factor").

Issue #2: Now **the Doctor** uses the TARDIS to get just where he wants to without disengaging the randomiser.

Issue #3: More TARDIS technicalities, I'm afraid. I strongly object to the concept which permits the TARDIS to materialize embedded in the deck of a starship, thereby creating a hole. Hogwash! I don't believe it can be done. It is utterly unprecendented for the TARDIS to materialize in a solid. In the past, it has only done so in fluids, implying that it merely displaces matter at its destination space, as opposed to destroying it.

Issue #4: The Time Lord's back-up feature in this issue was atrocious. First, **Shobogans**. They are not the "working classes" of Gallifrey. The common folk of Gallifrey are simply "Gallifreyans." **Shobogans** are Time Lords who became fed up with Time Lord policies and went into self-imposed exile on the planetary surface. Also, the story contains an implication that all Time Lords have their own personal TARDISes. On the occasions that **the Doctor** has returned to Gallifrey it has become quite clear that the only privately-owned TAR-

DISes belong to renegades (i.e. **the Doctor, the Master**, and **the Meddling Monk**).

I was also disturbed by the overall portrayal of **the Doctor** as a slightly incompetent (could it be that the whimsy has been misinterpreted?) and expecting bad from people rather than good.

I hate to be picking a nit, but I was so enthused at the prospect of a **DOCTOR WHO** comic in this country that the poor writing is doubly disappointing. I know these are reprints, but if there isn't any well-written material to reprint, please, let's see some original stuff now.

Oh, incidentally, on the logo issue: Your current logo, whether you are aware of it or not, is a hybrid between the original logo of **Hartnell** days and the diamond-shaped **Baker** logo. Of all six (the five TV logos plus yours), I prefer the **Tom Baker** one.

I apologise if this letter seemed a bit short on tact.

Matt Rogers
Chairman of Hypershere
80 Kildare
Deerfield, IL 60015

Hey, *Matt*, are you a lawyer or what?! Seriously, we appreciate your heart-felt criticisms and hope you take our response in the good-natured way we intended. Believe it or not, we care. For example, we're well aware of the TARDIS technicalities in this issue's "The Collector." Rather than scrap the story, we decided to run it. We feel, despite the technical errors, that it's still a good story. When we do begin producing new material we will do our best to insure that we are faithful to all that has gone on before.

Dear **Jim** and **Crew**,

On page 21 of **DOCTOR WHO** #5, in the **Colin Baker** and **John Nathan-Turner** interview you have an error in your midst. **Tom Baker** not **Peter Davison** starred in "The Keeper of Traken." So you better have **Mr. O'Neill** checked out, he might be due for regeneration! While I'm writing, how about some **Absiom Daak** adventures for back-up stories? Thanks for a great mag!

Eric Stafford
Lenoir, NC

We wondered about *Patrick Daniel O'Neill* the other day when he was singing that popular Who song, "Talking 'Bout My Regeneration." As for *Absiom Daak*, check out this issue, *Eric*. How's that for service?

Dear **Doctors**,

Excellent job you're doing on **DOCTOR WHO** comics. The drawings are excellent. I loved the alien zoo in issue #4.

A suggestion: Get rid of **Sharon**! I think she isn't a very good assistant. And, if you look at **the Doctor** at the end of issue #4, I think his big blue eyes are asking **Mr. Gibbons** to drop Sharon.

Gregg Evans
2887 TARDIS Road
Gallifrey, 93959

Now is that any way to bid *Sharon* farewell, *Gregg*? As for that address of yours . . .

So long, everyone. We'll see you in the future!

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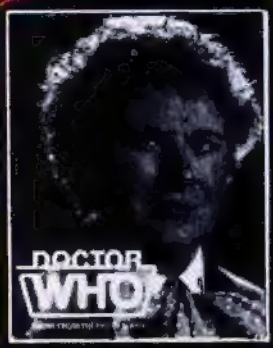

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